

Nonprofit says Colorado drivers losing money on roads

By [Alyssa Chin](#) | Wednesday, March 1, 2017

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (KKTV) A lot of drivers have complained about the terrible roads in Colorado Springs over the past few years. But what about the highways?



Now there's a dollar amount on just how much it's costing us to drive on the interstate because of the road conditions.

It was put out Wednesday by a national nonprofit, TRIP. According to their website, "TRIP is a private nonprofit organization that researches, evaluates and distributes economic and technical data on surface transportation issues."

According to the study, because of the roads, Colorado Springs drivers lose \$1,954 a year.

TRIP did the study to help inform

lawmakers about the issue.

In the past three years, we've talked to driver, after driver, after driver who have had serious car damage from crumbling Colorado Springs' roads.

Carolyn Kelly is the associate director for TRIP. She wrote the report released Wednesday.

"Colorado drivers are going to see their mechanic more often because their car needs extra repairs, and they're also losing time and money because they are stuck in congestion," Kelly said.

She said drivers in the Springs are delayed an average of 35 hours every year, which costs drivers \$772 in lost time and wasted gas.

"The roads need to be fixed; I can't afford to pay that," said Springs driver Debbie Widhalm.

"That's frustrating, I took out two tires on Austin Bluffs," driver Eric Krenek added.

The information for [this report](#) reflects only the condition of interstates and expressways, not roads maintained by the city. It was compiled from the latest data available, 2015.

That's the year voters approved a five-year tax known as 2C to fix problems in the city that had been ignored years ago.

Some drivers we talked to said they can already see a difference.

"I think it is [getting better]. I see a lot of improvement in roads," said driver Jennifer Helm.

Colorado Springs Mayor John Suthers responded in a statement and said while the report only studied roads not maintained by the city, it's a likely picture of what could be if 2C hadn't passed.

He added he's impressed by the 2C progress so far. If you'd like to see what roads are on the 2017 list for repaving, you can [find it here](#).